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The role of mobile applications in learning and teaching FL

The modern period of the development of society is characterized by the impact on it of information technologies that penetrate all spheres of human activity, ensure the dissemination of information flows in society, form a global information space. Informatization of education is an integral and important part of the informatization of the society. At the moment, there are about 1.5 billion mobile phones in the world, which is three times more than traditional computers [2]. As the technology progresses, mobile devices get new technical capabilities, speed and reliability for data transmission in wireless communication channels grow. Mobile phones, smart phones, tablet computers become the main part of the digital life of a person. According to available data, over the past five years, the number of teenagers who know how to use a computer, mobile information technology (MIT), has increased about tenfold.

Currently, mobile devices are almost all, it is a convenient tool for access to any information, in particular, educational type. Students are poorly informed about the potential educational opportunities provided by smartphones, communicators and tablet computers. As revealed in many studies, adolescents are mostly familiar with gaming computer and mobile programs and applications, use mobile phones and computer equipment for entertainment. At the same time, cognitive, in particular educational, motives for working with a computer stand roughly in the twentieth place [11].

This topic was touched upon by such CIS researchers as E.V. Vulfovich [13], I.N. Golitsyna, N.L. Polovnikova [6], N.V. Samokhina [12] and others. No less

relevant is training with the help of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This problem was handled by such foreign researchers as K. Beatty [1], V.M. Frank., S. Freynick, D. Richardson [5], etc. Studying the "Foreign Language" (FL) with mobile devices is a relatively new way of studying it, gaining popularity among many users of smartphones and tablet computers [4]. English language training (EL) assumes that the process will be continuous, which means that training with the help of MIT, using gadgets, will improve the quality and intensity of training for a set of free access to MIT.

Thus, there are many methods of teaching FL, in particular, EL, involving the use of information technologies and technical means, providing high informative capacity of educational material, stimulating cognitive activity of students, increasing the visibility of classes, the intensity of its conduct, individualization and differentiation. Among the well-known mobile applications focused on learning EL can be applied the applications Learn English Elementary [9], applications Duolingo [3], mobile application Memrise [10], Grammar Up [7], LangBook [8], program for memorizing words LinguaLeo [4] and others. Applications Learn English Elementary is a series of podcasts for EL students who can be downloaded to mobile phones and at any time convenient to the user.

Each issue lasts about twenty minutes and is accompanied by questions for listeners. To facilitate understanding, a "running line" is provided. Using the Duolingo application, which is freely available, you can learn both EL and Italian, French, Spanish, German, Portuguese. It can be used as an additional manual with interactive exercises for students of EL from scratch. Connection to the Internet is necessary for downloading the next stage of interactive sessions. The educational course is divided into stages according to the principle "from simple to complex". In the educational application Duolingo trains such skills as written and spoken language (you will be offered to pronounce the learned phrases), reading and listening. Educational mobile application Memrise, with which you can learn both EL and many other languages, is the continuation of the same site. This application has an intuitive interface, which in turn allows the user to immediately begin studying the

FL. Learning new words with images, practical interactive tasks for repetition and fixing contribute to more effective learning of vocabulary.

The Grammar Up application is intended for those students who periodically experience difficulties in constructing foreign language offers, using articles and other grammatical difficulties. The educational program contains rules and examples of use. The trainee is given the opportunity to pass the test, fixing and replenishing the lexical stock of words. Also, this application has a version of Phrasal Verbs Lite, which allows you to practice conversational EL using idioms and phrasal verbs. The LangBook educational application can be used for traditional translation as well as for training. This educational application offers users the thesaurus, explanatory, encyclopedic, geographic, engineering and many other dictionaries. For example, the application contains a dictionary with an interpreter, custom tools for studying FL and memorizing difficult words. The creators of the LangBook application have organized the downloading of dictionaries and voice-over of words at the user's request. In addition, the application helps you to learn FL using interactive cards with learning tasks, competently structured and broken down into academic topics. The main purpose of the program is to perform the functions of the dictionary. By default, only English-Russian and Russian-English dictionaries are installed in the application, including about one million words.

The interpreter built into the program makes it possible to transliterate not only sentences, but also whole texts. In order for the translation to be most accurate, the user is advised to specify the subject matter of the text manually. The peculiarity of the program is that it can work in offline mode. The program for memorizing the words LinguaLeo offers four types of training: word-translation, word-translation, word-builder, listening. The application is integrated with the site, allowing you to learn foreign words, read, listen to educational texts, solve crosswords. All words to be studied on the site become available in the mobile version. Thus, the proposed approach to the organization of EL training using mobile devices not only continues the tradition of teaching FL using the technical devices, but also extends them through the use of fundamentally new capabilities of mobile platforms. It expands the

learning environment for FL, taking it beyond the limits of a computer application and even a computer network. The obtained experience of using the proposed educational mobile technologies has shown their feasibility and effectiveness in the currently practicable educational practice. At the same time, the training of FL, in particular with the use of MIT, is realized in the form of independent and playful activity, which in turn contributes to the successful development of EL.

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Social networks and internet chats as additional tool for languages training

It is obviously that nowadays neither middle-aged nor young generations can exist without Internet services such as Google, Wikipedia, Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp, Viber, Badoo, Instagram and so far and so on. Social networks and chats enable us to communicate with each other from everywhere and every time we need, we can search any information immediately and can reach the four corners of the earth with the help of Internet. We can make online researches, get breaking news, share our ideas and emotions, and even can participate competitions, conferences and workshops. The possibilities are impressive. So, we shouldn't skip the opportunity to use Internet advantages while we teach languages to international students.

Normally, multimedia technologies are widely used at modern language departments of Ukrainian universities. Language teachers combine traditional and modern textbooks with audio- and video-lessons as well as with Power Point presentations. The result of such combination is increasing of students' interest in studying, increasing of their motivation and, as consequence, increasing of their knowledge. There is an old Finnish proverb: "Those things you learn without joy you will forget easily."

Eberly Center of Carnegie Mellon University made the research concerning the students lack interest or motivation and gave the recommendation how to handle